

Message Text

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13

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-14 IO-14 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 NIC-01 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /144 W

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R 060900Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0439

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION NATO
USMISSION USUN
CINCLANT
USCINCEUR
DIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 3800

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT PO
SUBJ: COMMUNIST PARTY COMPLAINS OF EXISTENCE OF ANTI-COMMUNIST
CAMPAIGN

REF: A) LISBON 3770; B) LISBON A-93

SUMMARY: COMMUNIST PARTY INCREASINGLY RAISING SPECTRE OF ANTI-COMMUNIST CRUSADE IN ATTEMPT HELP FORGE ALLIANCE OF LEFT. THERE IS SOME SUBSTANCE TO THEIR CHARGES THAT ANTI-COMMUNIST CAMPAIGN UNDERWAY. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING LAST FEW WEEKS COMMUNIST PARTY (PCP) AND ITS SYMPATHIZERS HAVE BEGUN COMPLAINING OF THE EXISTENCE OF A CONCERTED ANTI-COMMUNIST CAMPAIGN ORGANIZED BY "FASCIST REACTIONARIES" TO DEFAME PARTY AND STIR UP POPULACE AGAINST IT. THIS CHARGE BASED PARTLY ON FACT, AND PARTLY CONCOTED OUT OF DESIRE TO USE ISSUE TO UNIFY LEFT.

2. SMALL FAR RIGHT POLITICAL PARTIES HAVE IN FACT BEGUN A CONCERTED ANTI-COMMUNIST CAMPAIGN. ANTI-COMMUNIST POSTERS AND WALL SCRIBBLINGS (ONLY MEANS THESE PARTIES HAVE OPEN TO THEM TO REACH PUBLIC) ARE TO BE SEEN IN METROPOLE AND AZORES EQUATING COMMUNISM WITH FASCISM. THE THREE PARTIES MAKING UP THE RIGHT WING FRENTE DEMOCRATICA UNIDA (FDU) HAVE MADE ANTI-COMMUNISM (AND ANTI-RUSSIAN) A PRIMARY THEME OF THEIR PUBLIC RALLIES (REF A).

3. A REPRESENTATIVE OF ONE FDU PARTY, THE PARTIDO DE PROGRESO-MOVIMENTO FEDERALISTA PORTUGUES (PP-MFP) TOLD AN EMBOFF A FEW WEEKS AGO THAT HIS PARTY HAD DECIDED TO BEGIN ATTACKING OPENLY COMMUNISTS WHEREVER THEY ARE TO
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BE FOUND. PP-MFP WEEKLY TRIBUNA POPULAR PRINCIPAL VEHICLE FOR THIS ATTACK, BUT SOURCE SAID THAT HIS PARTY WOULD ALSO ENGAGE IN "PANCADAS" OR PHYSICAL ASSALUT ON PCP MILITANTS (ESPECIALLY IN CONSERVATIVE RURAL NORTH WHERE PP-MFP CLAIMS TO HAVE GREATEST SUPPORT). SAME INDIVIDUAL CONFIRMED SEPT 5 THAT PANCADAS HAD ALREADY OCCURRED NUMBER TIMES IN NORTH.

4. THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT SOME ON FAR RIGHT ARE ATTEMPTING TO PROCURE WEAPONS WITH WHICH TO PROTECT THEMSELVES AGAINST EXPECTED ATTACKS FROM LEFT. WHILE ARMED ATTACKS BY LEFTISTS OR RIGHTISTS SEEM UNLIKELY, THERE HAS BEEN ONE CONFIRMED CASE IN WHICH ARMED PCP MILITANTS BROKE INTO HOUSE OF KNOWN ANTI-COMMUNIST ACTIVIST (REFAIR). THIS ACTIVIST, WELL-KNOWN SCULPTOR JOSE DE ALMEIDA ARAUJO, A FREQUENT AND POPULAR SPEAKER AT RALLIES OF MEMBER PARTIES OF FDU, IS KNOWN TO HAVE CONTACTED ONE FOREIGN BANKER WITH A REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE IN PROCURING ARMS. ARAUJO TOLD THIS BANKER THAT HE IN CONTACT WITH ROY COHN (FORMER LAWYER FOR JOSEPH MCCARTHY), BUT NATURE AND PURPOSE OF CONTACTS NOT REVEALED.

5. PCP HAS ALSO BEGUN TO CLAIM "FASCISTS" BEHIND DISRUPTIONS OF "PROGRESSIVE" POLITICAL RALLIES. THESE CHARGES MAY BE TRUE, YET IT APPEARS THAT IT IS PRINCIPALLY PCP MILITANTS WHO HINDERING SOCIALISTS, PPD AND CDS FROM HOLDING PUBLIC MEETINGS. FURTHERMORE CHIEF VICTIMS OF DEFACED WALL POSTERS ARE THESE LATTER PARTIES, NOT PCP.

6. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH THERE IS SUBSTANCE TO PCP CHARGES OF EXISTENCE ANTI-COMMUNIST CRUSADE, PROBABILITY IS THAT EVEN IF SUCH DID NOT EXPST PCP WOULD INVENT IT. THE SPECTRE OF A RESURGENT, ARMED RIGHT WHICH INDISCRIMINATELY ATTACKS LEFT OS A GOOD RALLYING THEME FOR PCP. NOW THAT DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT (MDP) HAS SPLIT, PCP SEEKING CONVINCE SOCIALIST PARTY OF NEED TO UNIFY AGAINST "FASCISTS". SHOULD PCP BE ABLE TO PROVE CONVINCINGLY THAT RIGHT IS ARMING OR THAT FASCISM IS ON UPSWING THEY WILL BE IN A BETTER POSITION TO FORGE THEIR DESIRED ALLIANCE OF LEFT. IF SUCH OCCURS MUCH OF BLAME WILL FALL RIGHTFULLY ON
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FAR RIGHT.
SCOTT

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